



# Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

Indicators from the Bureau of Labor Statistics'  
Current Employment Statistics Survey  
**Series 1: State & National Employment**

Series 1, Issue 116

November 2021

## Inside this Brief:

Virginia HC&SA Employment	2
Virginia Employment	2
National Employment	3
State Employment Growth	3
About the Data	4

*Data in the report are seasonally adjusted. Self-employed persons, including health professionals in private practice, are not included.*

## Highlights

- ◆ Virginia's Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector enjoyed another strong month of employment growth after creating 1,600 new jobs in October. This gain represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 4.4%. With this gain, employment in Virginia's HC&SA sector has increased in five out of the past six months.
- ◆ Virginia's solid HC&SA job gain helped to drive overall statewide employment growth during the month. In October, Virginia's total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 19,400. This increase translates into an impressive 6.1% annualized employment growth rate.
- ◆ The national HC&SA sector enjoyed its largest employment gain since March after creating 46,900 new jobs in October, an increase that represents a one-month annualized growth rate of 2.8%. So far this year, national HC&SA employment has increased by 211,100.
- ◆ The overall national economy also experienced stronger job growth in October thanks to an increase of 531,000 in national total nonfarm payroll employment during the month. This gain in national total nonfarm payroll employment translates into a 4.4% annualized growth rate.

## Data in Brief

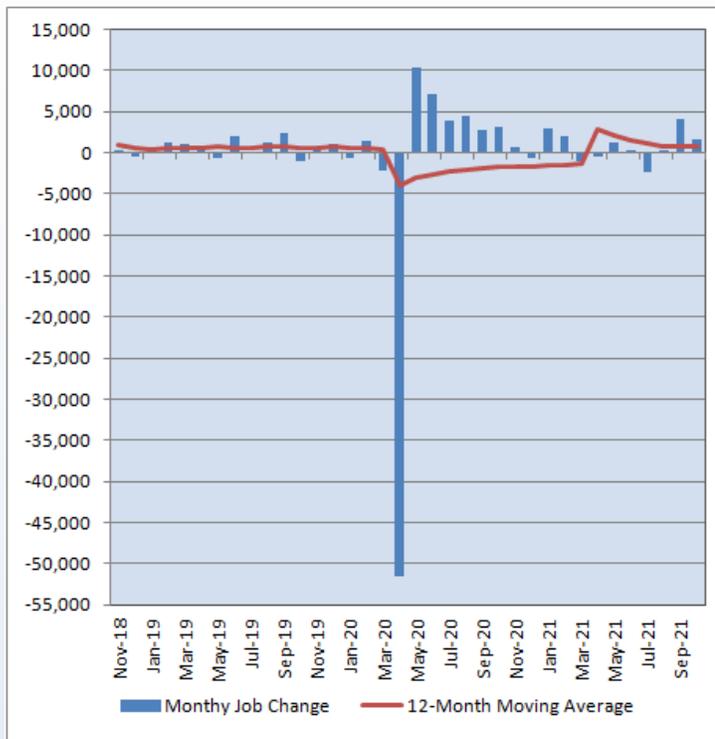
Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Oct. 2020	July 2021	Sept. 2021	Oct. 2021	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
<b>Nonfarm, Total</b>							
Virginia	3,878.2	3,902.7	3,938.3	3,957.7	2.0%	5.8%	6.1%
National	142,545.0	146,993.0	147,788.0	148,319.0	4.1%	3.7%	4.4%
<b>Health Care &amp; Social Assistance</b>							
Virginia	440.7	443.0	447.1	448.7	1.8%	5.2%	4.4%
National	19,841.0	20,044.8	20,092.5	20,139.4	1.5%	1.9%	2.8%
<b>All Other Nonfarm</b>							
Virginia	3,437.5	3,459.7	3,491.2	3,509.0	2.1%	5.8%	6.3%
National	122,704.0	126,948.2	127,695.5	128,179.6	4.5%	3.9%	4.6%

Preliminary estimates are italicized

\*Seasonally adjusted data are adjusted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to account for weather, holidays and other seasonal changes. Economists use seasonally adjusted data to reveal underlying trends over time. This series uses seasonally adjusted data exclusively. When comparing data in this series to other HWDC series, or publications from other sources, it is important to note whether the data reported have been seasonally adjusted.

## Virginia HC&SA Employment

**Figure 1: Monthly Change in Employment in Virginia’s Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Seasonally Adjusted.**



According to the preliminary data released on Friday, November 19, 2021, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Virginia’s Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector added to its impressive employment growth in September by producing another solid job gain in October. After increasing employment by 4,000 in September, Virginia’s HC&SA sector created an additional 1,600 new jobs in October, a gain that represents a one-month annualized growth rate of 4.4%.

With this gain, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has increased employment in each of the past three months. Although the gain from August was quite modest, HC&SA employment in Virginia has still increased by 5,700 during this time period. This three-month employment increase in Virginia’s HC&SA sector translates into a 5.2% annualized growth rate. This strong growth since August has helped Virginia’s HC&SA sector to recover completely the large loss of 2,400 HC&SA jobs in July. In addition, the 5,700 jobs that have been created by Virginia’s HC&SA sector over the past three months represent fully 70% of the 8,100 HC&SA jobs produced across the state so far in 2021.

## Virginia Employment

As impressive as Virginia’s HC&SA employment growth was in October, the overall statewide job market enjoyed even faster employment growth during the month. In October, the state’s total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 19,400. This gain represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 6.1%.

With this increase, Virginia’s overall economy has now created in excess of 10,000 jobs in each of the past three months, a feat that was last achieved in the second half of 2020. In total, the state’s total nonfarm payroll employment has increased by 55,000 since August, a gain that translates into a 5.8% annualized growth rate.

This impressive employment growth over the past three months continues a long-term trend of consistently positive job gains in Virginia’s overall economy. In fact, the state’s total nonfarm payroll employment has increased for five consecutive months, growing by a total of 66,700 since June. Furthermore, Virginia has only experienced two months of negative employment growth in all of 2021. So far this year, Virginia has increased overall employment by 76,600.

**Figure 2: Monthly Change in Employment in Virginia’s Total Non-farm Payroll, Seasonally Adjusted.**

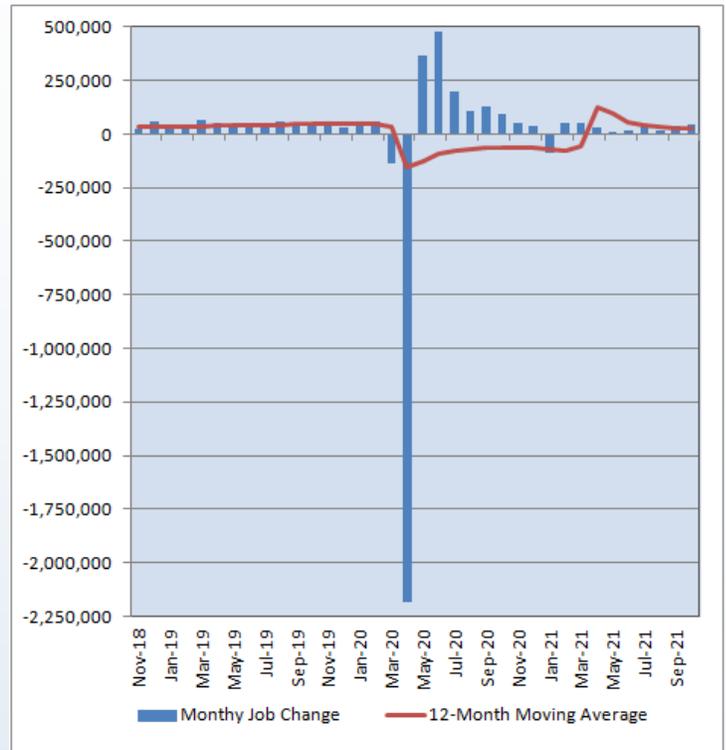


### National Employment

The national HC&SA sector created 46,900 new jobs in October, a gain that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 2.8%. October was an especially impressive month for employment growth in the national HC&SA sector. In particular, national HC&SA employment has not increased by such an extent in a single month since March. The national HC&SA sector has now enjoyed nine consecutive months of positive employment growth. Thanks to this consistent growth, national HC&SA employment has increased by 211,100 so far this year, and Virginia’s HC&SA sector has been responsible for nearly 4% of this year-to-date job gain.

The overall national economy also enjoyed stronger employment growth in October thanks to the creation of 531,000 new jobs during the month. This increase translates into a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 4.4%. With this gain, national total nonfarm payroll employment has increased by 5.8 million so far in 2021. This year-to-date employment gain in the overall national economy far exceeds the comparable total for any prior year in the past decade.

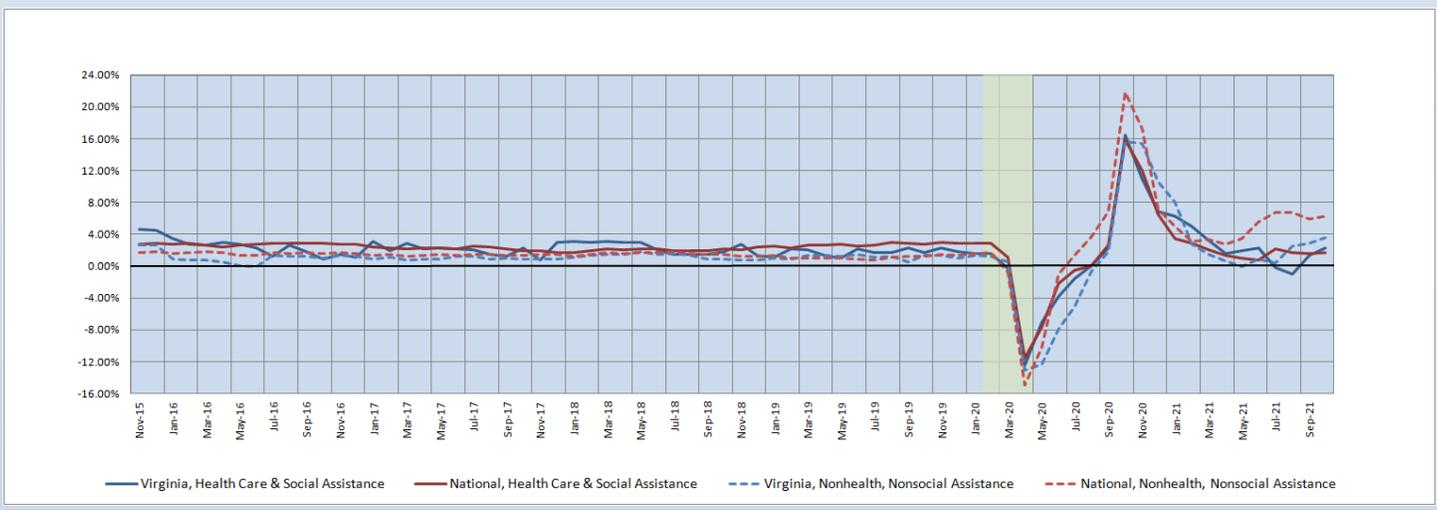
**Figure 3: Monthly Change in Employment in National Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Seasonally Adjusted**



### State Employment Growth

Virginia’s HC&SA sector experienced a significant increase to its six-month employment growth rate moving average from 1.36% to 2.27% in October. With this increase, the six-month employment growth rate moving average of Virginia’s HC&SA sector surpassed the comparable moving average for the national HC&SA sector for the first time since June. This occurred even though the six-month employment growth rate moving average for the national HC&SA sector also increased from 1.53% to 1.68%. Total nonfarm payroll employment in both Virginia and the nation as a whole is enjoying even faster growth. In October, the six-month employment growth rate moving average for Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll increased from 2.86% to 3.61%, while the comparable moving average for the overall national economy rose from 5.90% to 6.29%.

**Figure 4: Six-Month Moving Average, Employment Growth, Seasonally Adjusted**



**Healthcare Workforce  
Data Center**

Perimeter Center  
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300  
Henrico, VA 23233-1463

Phone: (804) 597-4213  
Fax: (804) 527-4434  
E-mail: [hwdc@dhp.virginia.gov](mailto:hwdc@dhp.virginia.gov)  
Website: [www.dhp.virginia.gov/PublicResources/  
HealthcareWorkforceDataCenter/](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/PublicResources/HealthcareWorkforceDataCenter/)

*HWDC Staff:*

Elizabeth Carter, PhD <i>Executive Director</i>	Yetty Shobo, PhD <i>Deputy Director</i>
Rajana Siva, MBA <i>Data Analyst</i>	Christopher Coyle <i>Research Assistant</i>

The Department of Health Professions Healthcare Workforce Data Center works to improve the data collection and measurement of Virginia's healthcare workforce through regular assessment of workforce supply and demand issues among the 80 professions and 350,000 practitioners licensed in Virginia by DHP.

The HWDC collects data on Virginia's licensed health professionals through surveys completed during the online license renewal and application process. Survey results and data may be accessed on our website: [www.dhp.virginia.gov/  
PublicResources/HealthcareWorkforceDataCenter/](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/PublicResources/HealthcareWorkforceDataCenter/).

The HWDC also provides a series of Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs based on data collected by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics and the U.S. Department of Commerce' Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs:

Series 1: State & National Employment (Monthly)

Series 2: Virginia Regional Employment (Monthly)

Series 3: Income & Compensation (Quarterly)

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**About the Data**

Data in this report are from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics' Current Employment Statistics program. The CES program surveys about 143,000 businesses and government agencies monthly. Unless otherwise noted, this series uses seasonally-adjusted data that removes seasonal variations related to weather, holidays, weekends, seasons and other predictable variations. This allows us to better examine underlying trends in the labor market. Data from recent months are preliminary and subject to revision in future releases from the CES. Revisions will be reported in future editions of this series. Unless otherwise noted, the CES data presented in this series:

**Includes:**

- ◆ Data on employed individuals drawing a paycheck (payroll employees).
- ◆ All employees, regardless of role, occupation or hours worked.
- ◆ HC&SA employees in the private sector only.
- ◆ Persons employed by health professionals in private practice.
- ◆ Both government and private sector workers in nonfarm employment data.

**Does not include:**

- ◆ Self-employed workers or volunteers, including health professionals in private practice.
  - ◆ HC&SA employees in the public sector. (These are counted as government workers in monthly reports).
  - ◆ Information on hours worked or the quality of employment.
  - ◆ Government workers in HC&SA level data. (Government workers, regardless of occupation and role, are classified as public sector employees).
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